



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor: Kazuhisa OHBUCHI  
Takaharu NAKAMURA  
Kazuo KAWABATA

Serial No.: 09/301,853

Filed: April 29, 1999

Title: **INTERLEAVING METHOD AND APPARATUS, DE-  
INTERLEAVING METHOD AND APPARATUS, AND  
INTERLEAVING/DE-INTERLEAVING SYSTEM AND  
APPARATUS**

Examiner: Guy J. Lamarre

Group Art Unit: 2133

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NOV 12 2002  
Technology Center 2100

November 8, 2002

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Applicants hereby petition for a three-month extension, a petition pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) and authorization to charge the requisite fee being enclosed. As Applicants paid a two-month extension fee in association with a Response to Office Action mailed on October 1, 2002, Applicants respectfully submit that the requisite fee should be the difference between the fee required for a three-month extension and the fee paid for the two-month extension.

Any fee due as a result of this paper, not covered by an enclosed check, may be charged on Deposit Acct. No. 50-1290.

Filed by Express Mail  
Receipt No. EV16207222345  
On NOV-08-02  
By: Patricia Muir  
Patricia Muir